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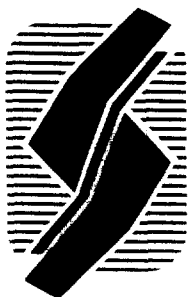
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3615 N. Broadway
PO Box 2027
Minot, ND 58702-2027

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SRT
SOURIS RIVER
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
COOPERATIVE

Phone: 701/722-3711
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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

February 16, 1996

Federal Communications Commission
c/o Ms. Donna R. Searcy
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554



3615 North Broadway • P.O. Box 2027 • Minot, North Dakota 58702

Subject: Telephone Service Assistance

RANDY A. BURCKHARD

Public Affairs Administrator

Office: (701) 838-9870
Toll Free: 1-800-737-9130
Fax: (701) 722-2245

Dear Donna:

Enclosed you will find three copies of a telephone lifeline assistance program that Souris River Telecommunications Cooperative (SRT) has recently filed with the North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC), case number PU-430-96-46. The program is known as Telephone Service Assistance (TSA).

No action is required by the North Dakota PSC per North Dakota statute 49-02-01.1. This statute provides that "Nothing in this chapter authorizes the Commission to make any order affecting rates, contracts, services rendered, that is operated as a non-profit, cooperative or mutual telecommunications company..." SRT is a cooperative telecommunications company with 25 exchanges in northwestern North Dakota.

TSA is a program targeted at low income customers who are eligible for assistance programs such as food stamps, fuel assistance, aid to families with dependent children or medical assistance.

SRT Telecommunications Cooperative hereby asks authority to waive the \$3.50 EUCL charge effective March 1, 1996.

Please advise me of any follow-up that is necessary and thanks in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Randy Burckhard

Randall A. Burckhard
Public Affairs Administrator

rab
enclosure
cc: Jeanine Allen, NECA

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GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF

Souris River Telecommunications
Minot, ND

Section: 32
Sheet: 2

TELEPHONE SERVICE ASSISTANCE

1. Definition of Telephone Service Assistance

Telephone Service Assistance (TSA) is a plan designed to provide some monthly telephone service rate relief to qualifying low income customers dependent upon their eligibility for social assistance and minimum level of basic telephone services.

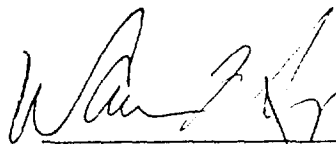
2. Eligibility for Telephone Service Assistance

- A. Customers who are eligible for food stamps, fuel assistance, aid to families with dependent children or medical assistance and who meet the criteria identified in item 3 below, are eligible for TSA from SRT.
- B. Eligibility is limited to twelve consecutive months. The customer must recertify eligibility through the applicable state agency upon expiration of the initial term or on February 1 of each year whichever occurs first.
- C. Certification of need for aid shall be obtained by the customer from the appropriate Social Service agency in the state of North Dakota. Certification of TSA rate cap eligibility shall be determined by SRT.

3. Determination of Telephone Service Assistance

- A. TSA is determined by comparing the amount of the customer's basic service rate plus the EAS Adder rate for a total amount for the two services not to exceed \$12.50 per month.
- B. The sum of the residential basic rate for a customer's exchange plus the identical exchange EAS Adder rate that exceeds a combined total of \$12.50 per month will be waived by SRT and identified as a Telephone Service Assistance (TSA) discount.
- C. The TSA discount will apply only to one single residential service per the customer's principal place of residence. Multi-line TSA discounts are not available.

Date Issued 01/26/96


Warren L. Hight

Effective Date 03/01/96

GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF


Souris River Telecommunications
Minot, ND

Section: 32
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TELEPHONE SERVICE ASSISTANCE

- D. The rate for optional touch tone service will also be waived for TSA eligible customers. Any other optional service offerings requested by the customer are not subject to TSA discounts and will be billed at regular service rates.
- E. The federal end user Subscriber Line Charge (SLC) may be waived in part or in total for TSA eligible customers in accordance with applicable federal guidelines.

Date Issued 01/26/96


Warren L. Hight

Effective Date 03/01/96